# At a Regular Meeting of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 6 pm

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

C. Eric Fly, Sr.

A. G. Futrell

Debbie P. Jones

Wayne O. Jones

Susan M. Seward

Rufus E. Tyler, Sr.

Steve White, Tie Breaker

## **STAFF PRESENT:**

Richard Douglas, County Administrator

David Conmy, Deputy County Administrator

Jeff Gore, County Attorney

Ellen G. Boone, Commissioner of the Revenue

Deste J. Cox, Treasurer

Eric Danuser, IT Manager

G. Reid Foster, Public Safety Coordinator

Jeffrey Gary, Public Works Director

Montaque Gilliam, Building & Grounds Supervisor

Vincent Givens, Major

William Hagy, Director of Social Services

William Jenkins, General Registrar

Kelly W. Moore, Director of Finance

Michael Poarch, Planner

Vincent L. Robertson, Commonwealth's Attorney

Shilton R. Butts, Assistant to the County Administrator/

Deputy Clerk to the Board of Supervisors

#### 1. Commencement

#### 1.01 Call to Order/Determine Quorum

The April 21, 2022 regular meeting of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chair Seward.

#### 1.02 The Invocation

The Invocation was offered by Supervisor W. Jones.

## 1.03 The Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

## 1.04 Agenda Amendments

County Administrator Douglas requested to add under Item 6. Action Items, as Item 6.01 Approval of Resolution 22-34, Budget Amendment for Courthouse Doors and Item 6.02 Agreement between Dinwiddie County and Sussex County for Interim Director's position.

Chair Seward requested to add under Item 3. Recognitions, as Item 3.06 Letter from Dr. Danny Avula, Commissioner of the Department of Social Services and as Item 3.07 Memo from Mr. Will Hagy, Director of Social Services to the County Administrator; under Chair Seward requested to adding under Item 11. Closed Session, as Item 11.01 County Administrator Pay, pursuant to 2.2-3711(A)1.

# 1.05 Approval of Regular Agenda

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR W. JONES, seconded by SUPERVISOR D. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the April 21, 2022 regular agenda inclusive of adding under Item 3. Recognitions, as Item 3.06 Letter from Dr. Danny Avula, Commissioner of the Department of Social Services and Item 3.07 Memo from Mr. Will Hagy, Director of Social Services, to the County Administrator; adding under Item 6. Action Items, as Item 6.01 Approval of Resolution 22-34, Budget Amendment for Courthouse Doors and Item 6.02 Agreement between Dinwiddie County and Sussex County for Interim Director's position; and adding under Item 11. Closed Session, as Item 11.01 County Administrator Pay, pursuant to 2.2-3711(A)1. All Board members present voted aye.

#### 2. Approval of Consent Agenda

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR TYLER, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the Consent agenda inclusive of the following: (a) March 3 Special, March 10 Personnel Committee and March 17, 2022 regular Meeting minutes; (b) the Approval of Warrants and Vouchers; (c) the Treasurer's Report and Financial Update; and (d) Departmental Reports. All Board members present voted aye.

#### 3. Recognitions/Awards/Presentation

3.01 Cameron Foundation Broadband Funding – Jerry Kuthy
Broadband Implementation Update – Lane Chambers, Ruralband

County Administrator stated that Mr. Jerry Kuthy of the Cameron Foundation was in attendance to present the foundation's \$500,000 contribution to the Broadband project. Mr. Kuthy gave a brief overview and presented the check to Chair Seward and Vice Chairman W. Jones.

In addition, Lane Chambers of Ruralband was in attendance to provide an overview of the performance agreement between Sussex County and PGEC Enterprises (Ruralband) to implement

universal broadband coverage in the county by the end of 2023. This agreement is a grant requirement to receive \$4.9 million in funding through the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative; and, also reflects the county's \$500,000 commitment and a \$500,000 commitment from the Cameron Foundation. The County Attorney and Ruralband's attorney are working to finalize this agreement (draft version attached), and staff is requesting that the County Administrator be delegated approval to sign a copy with any necessary revisions. This request is made in order for the County to meet a grant deadline of April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Chambers discussed a communication plan to transfer information to keep the County and constituents informed. It was noted that a progress plan would be provided the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month.

There was discussion in being able to view the website and select a link to enter address and see when services will be available in their area.

County Attorney Gore explained that there were two agreements. An agreement with Ruralband, which was handed out to the Board members, is the Performance Agreement with attachment records—maps, budgets, etc. He stated one of the attachments is the grant agreement, the VATI agreement with the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) which is just between the County and DHCD. County Attorney Gore stated that DHCD prepared a template agreement.

County Administrator Douglas stated that Deputy County Administrator Conmy has agreed to be the local point of contact. He also noted that the County was very grateful for the funding from the Cameron Foundation. He stated that in addition to the \$500,000 donated by the Cameron Foundation, the County had to provide \$500,000 which is tentatively to be paid from ARPA Funds.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR D. JONES, seconded by W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the Performance Agreement by and among the County of Sussex and PGEC Enterprises, LLC (Ruralband); and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the template for Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) grant. All Board members present voted aye.

#### 3.02 VDOT Update – Jerry Kee

Mr. Jerry Kee, with VDOT, presented a resolution in support of a roundabout at the Route 40/Route 35 intersection and a resolution approving the updated Secondary Six Year Plan along with supporting documentation, for the Board's consideration.

There was inquiry regarding having enough room for large trucks in the roundabout. It was also noted that if at a later date, if the County feels that the roundabout is not working, it can be removed.

There was discussion of reaching out to the Virginia Truckers' Association and to the Virginia

Loggers' Association to publicize information in their newsletter to inform truckers of the new traffic pattern.

Mr. Kee discussed the functionality and appearance—colors (high density yellow)—of the roundabout. He discussed prices and signage. He stated that there would be signage for the recommended speed that's normally approximately 20 mph.

Sketches of the roundabout were provided to the Board.

Mr. Kee advised that approximately \$50,000 is funded for Sussex County each year to be used for safety projects. He stated that there's approximately two years of funding to be used towards this project. He stated that VDOT has also identified the remaining funding in their Maintenance Safety budget.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL, seconded by SUPERVISOR D. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves Resolution #22-29 in support of the installation of roundabout at the intersection of Routes 35 and 40, to-wit:

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Transportation has completed a Roadway Safety Assessment at the intersection of Routes 35 & 40; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of the study, the long term recommendation was the installation of a roundabout at the intersection.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby supports the installation of a roundabout at the intersection of Route 35 & 40. All Board members present voted aye.

Mr. Kee stated that no Public Hearing was needed because the Code of the State of Virginia states that if less than \$100,000 is received, a Public Hearing is not required.

He stated that they did have an estimate for the curve that Supervisor Fly requested to be moved on Route 35. He stated that if it was updated, it would cost approximately \$1,000,000. VDOT only has approximately \$380,000. He stated that it would stay in the plan as is. There was inquiry of removing trees in the right of way for visibility.

Mr. Kee noted that Butts Road was on the Six Year Plan. He provided an update that ordinary maintenance had been completed such as pipes and drainage work. They are approximately \$100,000 short for paving. They have identified funding and are looking to get Butts Road paved in the next six months. Once funding is appropriated to Route 609 Butts Road, there will be additional funding for future work on additional routes. The funding is currently in the balance entry for unpaved funds for Sussex. The Board may want to decide which, if any, of these routes they would like to add.

There was inquiry regarding moving Carver and Glyndon Lanes project forward. There was discussion of other options. There was inquiry regarding a street off of Pleasant Spring Road—finish paving part of a right of way. There was discussion of downed road signs.

Mr. Kee stated that the Board of Supervisors and VDOT have begun working on the upcoming Secondary Six Year Plan and plan on having a meeting. Below is a list of some items that need to be addressed before the new plan is passed by the board.

The following is a list of the routes that qualify for unpaved road funding based on traffic count:

Route	Road Name	From	To	Traffic Count
604	Chinquapin Road	606	621	90
611	Mill Path Road	609	610	70
632	<b>Hunting Quarter Road</b>	660	608	90
636	Longevity Road	626	40	80
640	Cabin Stick Road	637	626	70

Staff recommended approval of both resolutions, as well as recommended that all eligible unpaved roads be prioritized for future paving consideration.

Copies of the Six Year Plan resolution and document, Roundabout resolutions and map were included in the Board packet.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR D. JONES, seconded by SUPERVISOR FUTRELL and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves Resolution #22-30 Virginia Department of Transportation Proposed Secondary Six Year Plan and Budget, to-wit:

WHEREAS, Sussex County and the Virginia Department of Transportation worked together in developing a Secondary Six Year Road Plan; and

WHEREAS, this Board has previously agreed to assist in the preparation of this Plan, in accordance with the Virginia Department of Transportation policies and procedures and participated in a meeting on the Proposed (FY2023/2024 through 2027/2028) on April 21, 2022 so that citizens of the County had the opportunity to participate in said meeting and to make comments and recommendations concerning the proposed Plan and Priority List; and

WHEREAS, Gerald Kee, of the Virginia Department of Transportation, appeared before the Board and recommended approval of the Six Year Plan for Secondary Roads and the Construction Priority List for Sussex County; and

WHEREAS, the Priority List is as follows:

Priority #1: Route 735 (Courthouse Road) Reconstruction and drainage improvements on Route 735, to Route 660 (Gilliam Road) and Route 631 (Gray Road) (2.1 miles) from Route)

Priority #2: Future unpaved roads: 4-6 Years, various locations in the County

Priority #3: Glyndon Lane and Carver Lane – Rural Addition, Various

Priority #4: Route 609 (Butts Road) Reconstruction & Surface Treat Non-Hard Surface Road to Rowehampton Road (Route 697) and Courthouse Road (Route 735)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that since the plan appears to be in the best interest of the Secondary Road System, said Secondary Six Year Plan.
All Board members present voted aye.

3.03 Industrial Property Assessment – Jim Bruce, BFPC

This item was tabled.

3.04. <u>Downtown Strategies</u> – Keith Boswell, Virginia's Gateway Region

County Administrator Douglas stated that Mr. Alec Brebner will present an overview of the recently completed downtown market assessment by Downtown Strategies. This project was funded by Gateway.

Keith Boswell, Executive Director of Virginia's Gateway Region (VGR), was in attendance. Mr. Boswell provided an update on an initiative that VGR is undertaking on behalf of their seven community partners called Local Market Development which stems from their Board of Directors instructing them to look at not only, industrial development, but specifically around manufacturing and logistics and distribution as part of their core option. They were also asked to look at signature retail development. He stated that one company in this category is Virginia Diner.

He stated that after the pandemic, the seven partners realized that retail, restaurants and hospitality were a very important part of their tax base. The organization could work their communities to not only look at retail, but may be offer a structure that communities could have as part of their offering, and work with retail, but as a work a community analysis.

He stated that the County Administrator asked to share with the Board what VGR is doing to offer this as part of what they haven't done but offer as Local Market Development, working as a retail strategy of what VGR could offer a retail component. He stated that VGR is working with the same company on a three-year plan. They are to provide VGR with a proposal of retail strategies with downtown strategies as one of their provisions. He stated that they have three project offers. One of which is retail academy. Another offer is downtown development. The third offering is retail recruitment. He stated that VGR is adopting, starting July 1, on behalf of the seven communities—currently at no charge—a three-year plan. He stated that Sussex would look at this with their towns and determine how to make the downtowns more attractive so that things could happen. The second year would be how to put the plan together. The third year would be implementing the plan to engage in retail recruitment.

He stated that VGR would not require any more funds.

Mr. Boswell gave a brief summary of the water study looking to use Go Virginia funds to do a study of Sussex Megasite missing projects due to 2 to 3 million gallons volume of water a day requirement. He stated that it was presented to Sussex's Economic Development Team, as well as all of the Economic Development Teams inside of VGR and the city managers and county administrators.

He stated that they have the direction, the timing, the rough estimate of what it will take for costs, and now know who the partners will potentially be to deliver at least 2 million gallons of water.

No action requested at this time.

# 3.05 Chamber of Commerce Update – Jesse Hellyer, President

Mr. Jessee Hellyer, President of the Chamber of Commerce, provided a brief update of their events and activities.

Mr. Hellyer noted that the Chamber Board of Directors: Vice President – Dr. Phyllis Tolliver (Jessica Ann Moore Foundation); Treasuer – Mr. Steve Jordan (Virginia Diner); Secretary – Ms. Rhonda Rook (Davis Travels); Colonel Keith Blowe (DLW Solutions), Ashley Fischer (Branch Manager of BSV); Malcolm Manning (STANDING); and Corey Schultz (Lawnscapes). He noted that Lynn Babish is their Technology Director.

He noted that the Chamber is 100% in support of bringing in news businesses to the County. He wanted the Board to know that there are also thriving businesses in the County. To name a few of the businesses: Airfield 4-H Center (Wakefield), Kid's Korner (Wakefield), Physical Therapy (Wakefield), and Great Valu (Wakefield), Nail Salon (Waverly), Anne Dress Shoppe (Waverly), Claremont Candle Company (Waverly), Schultz Lawnscapes (Waverly), Sussex Mini Mart (Courthouse), Davis Truck Travel (Stony Creek), and Owens Ford (Jarratt).

Mr. Hellyer noted that the County also had a pharmacy, medical center, bank institutions, car service shops, etc.

He stated that the Chamber wanted to help market the County to get new businesses and was there to help.

He stated that the Town of Waverly is holding its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Barks event and Bubbles. The profits are to be used to bring in a snip van—a mobile spay and neuter van for the Sussex County Animal Shelter.

Mr. Hellyer announced that the Chamber of Commerce would be hosting the Spring Fling, which happens to fall on Cinco de Mayo, on Thursday, May 5, 2022 on Main Street in the town of Waverly from 5 pm to 9 pm. There will be food, drinks, live music, piñatas, and children's activities and a bouncy house. The Animal Shelter will have a kissing booth for adopting animals. There will be no admission charges.

He stated that they will be working closely with the Town of Waverly, VDOT and Sheriff's Department to ensure that it's a fun and safe event for everyone.

He mentioned the Fall Festival.

## 3.06 Letter to Chair from Dr. Danny Avula (Commissioner of the Department of Social Services)

Chair Seward stated in regards to everything that's going on with the Department of Social Services, she received a letter from the State Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, Dr. Danny Avula, in support of Sussex County Department of Social Services. She noted that Dr. Avula was newly appointed by Governor Youngkin.

Chair Seward stated that Dr. Avula would be attending the Board's May meeting. She stated that he could not be in attendance to this month's meeting, so he sent a her a letter.

Chair Sewad read a letter received from the Commissioner, to the Board of Supervisors and the citizens.

Some of the highlights as noted in the letter included fiscal management wherein the County owed the State \$45,000 because of accounting problems at the local agency. Monies were being paid back on a three year plan. Other fiscal management issues included addressing previous performance and process issues with CSA program. Also, the agency identified \$250,000 of outstanding CSA invoices not submitted to the State for reimbursement. It stated that the Agency has corrected internal protocol. A transportation program that was out of compliance with the Crater District Area Agency on Aging (CDAAA) was noted in the letter as well.

The letter also included agency structure ,dangerous practices and accountability in the letter as well.

Further detail and information was included in the copy of the letter from Dr. Danny Avula that was provided to the Board.

## 3.07 Letter to County Administrator from Will Hagy, Sussex County Director of Social Services

Chair Seward stated that the letter was written to her from Mr. Will Hagy, Director of Sussex Social Services.

Chair Seward read the letter received.

In Mr. Hagy's letter he noted some of the things he accomplished to include reforms to the department's Administrative Unit, Benefits Unit, Department's Family Services Unit and Children's Service Act Program.

In conclusion in Mr. Hagy's letter to the County Administrator, he gave a brief summary of some of his actions and provided an outline to ensure the Department is properly staffed.

A copy of Mr. Hagy's letter with his full notations/statements were provided to the Board members.

# 4. Public Hearing

## 4.01 Redistricting Plan

County Administrator Douglas thanked Mr. Alec Brebner and Jay Ruffa for spearheading the process of redistricting. He also thanked County Attorney Gore, Mr. Michael Poarch, Sussex's Planner, and Mr. William Jenkins, Sussex's General Registrar.

Mr. Alec Brebner was in attendance and gave a brief overview. He stated that Crater District is the regional planners for 11 jurisdictions. They are assisting 6 of 11 jurisdictions in redistricting. They provide neutral technical assistance.

He stated that what was challenging for Sussex is the Virginia General Assembly changed the law regarding how you had to deal with prisoners. The challenge was that the prisoners added several hundred more people in the Courthouse District.

They discussed challenges of the district brought about years ago which included the lack of compactness and intuitiveness. There was discussions of the driving distances and what it meant for voter turn out. He stated that seven districts increased representation of the County's population. He noted that Yale would be the seventh district. The other districts include Blackwater, Courthouse, Jarratt-Henry, Stony Creek, Wakefield, and Waverly Districts.

Mr. Brebner gave a brief background of the process. He stated that Sussex's Committee had their first meeting in December where they had a first scenario to present to the Board in December. They took the map they had and tweaked it as little as possible using clearly observable boundaries of roads and streets. They tried to get each district population that was within five percent of the average of the six.

County Administrator Douglas stated that in Blackwater, Courthouse and Yale Districts there are two precincts. He stated that Mr. Jenkins pointed out that no polling places have to be created.

The map was prepared and recommended by the BOS Redistricting Committee (Supervisors Tyler, Fly, and W. Jones), with assistance from the Crater PDC and Registrar. The biggest change proposed through this redistricting process is the establishment of a seventh voting district (Yale District), which allows for more compact geographical voting districts and provides for each town to be located within one district (with the exception of Waverly, which is too large to be located within one district). At the conclusion of the public hearing, the board may choose to adopt the proposed map, which must be submitted to the State Attorney General for approval.

A public hearing has been scheduled and advertised to receive input on a revised county voting district map, based on the 2020 US Census population figures (and reflecting changes in accounting for prison population).

Chair Seward opened the Public Hearing.

County Attorney Gore stated that there were two Ordinances for the Public Hearing. One ordinance is for redistricting and one for the tie breaker position.

There were no public comments.

There were no Board comments.

Chair Seward closed the Public Hearing.

The map, draft copy of ordinance and advertisement were included in the Board packet.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR W. JONES, seconded by SUPERVISOR FLY and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts the map and an ordinance to provide for the apportionment of members of Sussex County's Board of Supervisors and School Board to establish boundary lines of the election districts: to name each election district and to establish precincts and polling places; and

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of Sussex County, Virginia that the ordinance adopted in June 2011, and all other previous ordinances or actions by the Board of Supervisors related to the reapportionment and re-establishment of election districts for the Board of Supervisors and School Board, are hereby repealed and replaced in its entirety by this ordinance which provides for the population, election district boundaries, and precinct names as follows:

**SECTION 1.** Pursuant to the Authority contained in Sections 15.2-1400, 15.2-1211, and 24.2-304.1 through 24.2-304.6 of the Code of Virginia, the election districts of Sussex County, Virginia, are hereby created and established as set forth in this Ordinance.

**SECTION 2.** The election districts are designated numerically, and their populations as derived from official 2020 United States Census are set forth as follows in comparison to the election districts based on the 2010 United States Census:

#### **District20112021**

1 1,688*1,396* 

2 1.5271.382

3 4,0351,392

4 1,624*1,324* 

5 1,5261,313

6 1,6871,286

7 (NEW)01,273

12, 0879,366

**SECTION 3.** The boundaries of the respective election districts are as set forth below:

# **Election District One- Waverly**

This election district shall comprise all that area of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

All of that portion of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the point of interaction of nonvisible boundary (Town of Waverly Boundary) and Sussex Drive, and proceeding northeasterly along The Town of Waverly Boundary to transmission lines (Town of Waverly Boundary), and proceeding easterly along transmission lines (Town of Waverly Boundary) to Beaver Dam Road, and proceeding northerly along Beaver Dam Road to General Mahone Highway, and proceeding westerly along General Mahone Highway to West Main Street, and proceeding westerly along West Main Street to Norfolk Southern Railroad, and proceeding westerly along Norfolk Southern Railroad to nonvisible boundary (Town of Waverly Boundary Line), and proceeding southwesterly along the nonvisible boundary (Town of Waverly boundary) to the point of beginning.

#### **Election District Two- Stony Creek**

This election district shall comprise all that area of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

All of that portion of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the point of intersection of the Sussex/ Prince George County line and Railroad Bed Road, and proceeding southerly along Railroad Bed Road to Cabin Stick Road, and proceeding westerly along Cabin Stick Road to Taylor Lane, and proceeding southerly along Taylor Lane to Tyus Road, and proceeding southerly along Tyus Road to Sussex Drive, and proceeding westerly along Sussex Drive to Emerald Road, and proceeding southerly along Emerald Road to Comans Wells Road, and proceeding westerly along Comans Well Road to Andrews Road, and proceeding southerly along Andrew Road to Owen Road, and proceeding westerly along Owen Road to Blue Star Highway, and proceeding easterly along Blue Star Highway to Green Church Road, and proceeding northerly along Green Church Road to Huske Road, and proceeding northerly along Woodyard Road to Reed Road, and proceeding westerly along Reed Road to Little Mill Road, and proceeding northerly along Little Mill Road to Sussex/ Dinwiddie County Line, and proceeding easterly along Sussex/ Dinwiddie County Line to the point of beginning.

#### **Election District Three- Courthouse**

This election district shall comprise all that area of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

All of that portion of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the point of intersection of the Sussex/ Prince George County line and Newville Road, and proceeding southerly along Newville Road to Neblett Mill Road, and proceeding westerly along Neblett Mill Road to Courthouse Road, and proceeding southwesterly along Courthouse Road to Robinson Road, and proceeding southerly along Robinson Road to Old Forty Road, and proceeding westerly along Old Forty Road to Comans Wells Road, and

proceeding westerly along Comans Well Road to Courthouse Road, and proceeding westerly along Courthouse Road to Comans Well Road, and proceeding westerly along Comans Well Road to Emerald Road, and proceeding northerly along Emerald Road to Sussex Drive, and proceeding easterly along Sussex Drive to Tyus Road, proceeding northerly along Tyus Road to Taylor Lane, and proceeding northerly along Taylor Lane to Cabin Stick Road, and proceeding easterly along Cabin Stick Road to Railroad Bed Road, and proceeding northerly along Railroad Bed Road to Sussex/ Prince George County Line, and proceeding easterly along Sussex/ Prince George County Line to the point of beginning.

#### **Election District Four- Wakefield**

This election district shall comprise all that area of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

All of that portion of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the point of interaction of the Sussex/Southampton County line and Jerusalem Plank, and proceeding northerly along Jerusalem Plank Road to Beaver Dam Road, and proceeding easterly along Beaver Dam Road to Chinquapin Road, and proceeding easterly along Chinquapin Shop Road to General Mahone Highway, and proceeding easterly along General Mahone Highway to High Street, and proceeding northerly along High Street to Church Road, and proceeding easterly along Church Road to nonvisible boundary (Town of Wakefield Boundary), and proceeding easterly along the Town of Wakefield Boundary to Byrd Drive, and proceeding easterly along Byrd Drive to Birch Island Road, and proceeding southerly along Birch Island Road to Rocky Hock Road, and proceeding easterly along Rocky Hock Road to the Sussex/Surry County line, and proceeding westerly along the Sussex County line to the point of beginning.

#### **Election District Five- Henry**

This election district shall comprise all that area of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

All of that portion of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the point of intersection of the Sussex/ Dinwiddie County line and Little Mill Road, and proceeding westerly along Sussex/ Dinwiddie to Nottoway River (Sussex County Line), and proceeding easterly along Nottoway River (Sussex County Line) to Sussex/ Greensville County Line, and proceeding southerly along Sussex/ Greensville County Line to Three Creek (Sussex County Line), and proceeding easterly along Three Creek (Sussex County Line) to Unnamed Road, and proceeding northerly along Unnamed Road to Butts Road, and proceeding westerly along Butts Road to Gray Road, and proceeding westerly along Gray Road to Owen Road, and proceeding northerly along Owen Road to Blue Star Highway, and proceeding easterly along Blue Star Highway to Green Church Road, and proceeding northerly along Green Church Road to Huske Road, and proceeding northerly along Woodyard Road to Reed Road, and proceeding westerly along Reed Road to Little Mill Road, and proceeding northerly along Reed Little Mill Road to the point of beginning.

#### **Election District Six- Blackwater**

This election district shall comprise all that area of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

All of that portion of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the point of intersection of the Sussex/Prince George County line and Newville Road, and proceeding southerly along Newville Road to Beef Steak Road, and proceeding easterly along Beef Steak Road to Lobbs Shop Road, and proceeding easterly along Lobbs Shop Road to nonvisible boundary (Town of Waverly Boundary), and proceeding easterly along the nonvisible boundary (Town of Waverly Boundary) to Norfolk Southern Railroad, and proceeding easterly along the Norfolk Southern Railroad to West Main Street, and proceeding easterly along West Main Street to General Mahone Highway, and proceeding easterly along General Mahone Highway to High Street, and proceeding northerly along High Street to Church Road, and proceeding easterly to nonvisible boundary (The Town of Wakefield Boundary), and proceeding easterly along the nonvisible boundary (Town of Wakefield Boundary) to Byrd Drive, and proceeding easterly along Byrd Drive to Birch Island Road, and proceeding southerly along Birch Island Road to Rocky Hock Road, and proceeding easterly along Rocky Hock Road to the Sussex County line, and proceeding westerly along the Sussex County line to the point of beginning.

#### **Election District Seven (NEW)- Yale**

This election district shall comprise all that area of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

All of that portion of Sussex County bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the point of interaction of the Sussex/Southampton County line and Jerusalem Plank Road, and proceeding northerly along Jerusalem Plank Road to Beaver Dam Road, and proceeding easterly along Beaver Dam Road to Chinquapin Road, and proceeding easterly along Chinquapin Road to General Mahone Highway, and proceeding northwesterly along General Mahone Highway to Beaver Dam Road, and proceeding southerly along Beaver Dam Road to transmission lines (Town of Waverly Boundary Line), and proceeding westerly along transmission lines to nonvisible boundary (Town of Waverly Boundary), and proceeding westerly along nonvisible boundary (Town of Waverly Boundary) to Lobbs Shop Road, and proceeding northwesterly along Lobbs Shop Road to Beef Steak Road, and proceeding southwesterly along Beef Steak Road to Neblett Mill Road, and proceeding westerly along Neblett Mill Road to Courthouse Road, and proceeding southwesterly along Courthouse Road to Robinson Road, and proceeding southerly along Robinson Road to Old Forty Road, and proceeding westerly along Old Forty Road to Comans Wells Road, and proceeding westerly along Comans Well Road to Courthouse Road, and proceeding westerly along Courthouse Road to Comans Well Road, and proceeding westerly along Comans Well Road to Andrews Road, and proceeding southwesterly along Andrew Road to Owen Road, and proceeding southerly along Owen Road to Gray Road, and proceeding easterly along Gray Road to Butts Road, and proceeding easterly along Butts Road to unnamed road, and proceeding southerly along unnamed road to Sussex/ Southampton County line, and proceeding northeasterly along Sussex/Southampton County line to the point of beginning.

**SECTION 4.** Each precinct is wholly contained within a single congressional district, Senate district, House of Delegates district, and election district used. One supervisor and one school board member shall be elected from each election district created by this Ordinance.

# SECTION 5.ELECTION PRECINCTS AND POLLING PLACES.

Each District shall constitute a single election precinct. Further, the polling place for each precinct is located within the County and is either within the precinct or within one mile of the precinct boundary. The polling places are proposed to as follows:

Voting District Name	Voting/Election District Number	Precinct Number	Precinct Name	NEW Polling Place	Previous Polling Place
Waverly	01	101	Waverly	Sussex County Building (*new name)  233 L South County Drive Waverly, VA 23890	NO CHANGE IN LOCATION
Stony Creek	02	201	Stony Creek	Stony Creek Volunteer Fire Dept. (*new name) 12457 Hartley St Stony Creek, VA 23882	First Baptist Church 18463 Little Mill Road AND Stony Creek Fire House 12457 Hartley Street Stony Creek, VA 23882
Courthouse	03	301	Courthouse	Sussex Courthouse Volunteer Fire Dept. (*new name)  20169 Princeton Road Stony	Sussex Volunteer Firehouse 20169 Princeton Road

				Creek, VA 23882	
Courthouse	03	302	Newville One	Newville Baptist Church 7710 Beefsteak Road Waverly, VA	Wakefield Town Hally 200 W. Main Street
Wakefield	04	401	Wakefield Firehouse	Wakefield Volunteer Fire Dept. (*new name) 155 Fleetwood Ave Wakefield VA, 23888	NO CHANGE IN LOCATION
Henry	05	501	Henry	Jarratt Senior Citizen Center 114 N Halifax Road Jarratt, VA 23867	Jarratt Senior Citizen Center 114 N Halifax Road AND Calvary Baptist Church 20248 Courthouse Rd Yale, VA 23897
Blackwater	06	601	Blackwater	Sussex County Building (*new name) 233 L South County Dr Waverly VA, 23890	NO CHANGE IN LOCATION
Blackwater	06	602	Wakefield	Wakefield Town Hall  200 W Main St Wakefield VA 23888	Newville Baptist Church 7710 Beef Steak Road

Yale (NEW)	07	701	Yale	Calvary Baptist Church 20248 Courthouse Rd Yale, VA 23897	N/A
Yale (NEW)	07	702	Newville Two	Newville Baptist Church 7710 Beefsteak Rd Waverly VA 23890	N/A
Central Absentee Precinct	N/A	N/A	N/A	Sussex County Registrar 15080 Courthouse Rd Stony Creek, VA 23882	N/A

**SECTION 6.** Should any section or provision of this Ordinance be declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section or provision of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon the earliest of (i) receipt of a Certificate of No Objection by the Virginia Attorney General or (ii) sixty days after the County's submission for such Certification to the Office of the Attorney General if no response is provided by the Attorney General within such 60 day time period, for all primary or general elections for members of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors and the Sussex County School Board held after the effective date of this Ordinance.

Voting aye: Supervisors Fly, Futrell, D. Jones, W. Jones, Seward, Tyler

Voting nay: none

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL, seconded by SUPERVISOR FLY and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts an Ordinance to repeal the tie breaker position in Sussex County, to-wit:

WHEREAS, Virginia Code Section 15.2-1421 authorizes the governing body of any locality to designate a tie breaker, whose duty it shall be to cast the deciding vote in case of a tie; and

WHEREAS, on May 28, 1991, the Sussex County Board of Supervisors ("Board") adopted an ordinance that the Board would be composed of six members and designated a tie breaker; and

WHEREAS, the tie breaker is elected by the voters of the County at large and serves a term of four years; an

d

WHEREAS, reapportionment of population among the County's election districts are required after every decennial United States Census; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the 2020 United States Census, the Board decided it is in the County's best interest to reapportion the population of the County and create an additional district for a total of seven districts to represent the interests of the County;

WHEREAS, due to the additional district created under the new redistricting plan, the tie breaker position is no longer necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to eliminate the position of the tie breaker.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of Sussex County, Virginia, that this ordinance shall be effective upon:

§1a. The earliest of (i) receipt of a Certificate of No Objection by the Virginia Attorney General or (ii) sixty days after the County's submission for such Certification to the Office of the Attorney General if no response is provided by the Attorney General within such 60-day time period, for all primary or general elections for members of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors and the Sussex County School Board held after the effective date of this Ordinance; and

§1b. The expiration of the current term of the tie breaker position and implementation of redistricting plan in the next general election cycle.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this Ordinance shall repeal Section 2-27 of the County Code, adopted May 28, 1991, and all subsequent amendments previously adopted by the Board of Supervisors, as well as all other prior Board actions related to the creation a tie breaker.

Voting aye: Supervisors Fly, Futrell, D. Jones, W. Jones, Seward, Tyler

Voting nay: none

#### 5. Appointments

## 5.01 Appointment to the Housing Oversight Board

County Administrator Douglas stated that this item was discussed at the last meeting. Tanisha Green submitted her letter of resignation from the Housing Oversight Board. The purpose of the Board is to provide fair and equitable application oversight of the Pocahontas Community Improvement Grant, Phases I and II, and the Regional Urgent Needs Grant Program as required

under the County's contract with the funding agency, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

The criteria for Mrs. Green's replacement is as follows: Active member of community, already have an existing relationship with many of the neighbors, and having been an active participant in organizing the neighborhood during the Planning Grant process. They should understand the intent of the program and be able to assist the County in communicating with project area residents to assure they fully understand the program.

Vice Chairman Jones stated that he had spoken with Ms. Katrina Faltz, 10256 Birch Island Road, Wakefield, Virginia 23888. She agreed to serve on the Board.

A copy of Ms. Tanisha Green's resignation letter and Ms. Katrina Faltz's information were included in the Board packet.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL, seconded by SUPERVISOR D. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby appoints Ms. Katrina Faltz, 10256 Birch Island Road, Wakefield, Virginia 23888 to the Housing Oversight Board. All Board members present voted aye.

# 5.02. Appointment to the Crater Regional Area Agency on Aging

County Administrator Douglas stated that this item was tabled from previous Board of Supervisors regular meetings agenda. Administration received Ms. Brenda Burgess' letter of resignation advising that she would no longer be able to continue to serve on the Crater District Area Agency on Aging (CDAAA) Board of Directors. Ms. Burgess' two-year term was due to expire December 31, 2022.

Supervisor Futrell requested to be appointed to fill this vacancy in the absence of finding someone available to assume the responsibilities of the appointment.

It was noted that Supervisor Futrell's appointment is contingent upon confirmation from CDAAA and the State code.

# 6. Action Items

# 6.01 Budget Amendment

County Administrator Douglas stated that quotes were just put together the day before for doors. He stated that the regular fire inspection was conducted a couple of weeks ago. There were a number of deficiencies identified. Staff had been working as a priority to remedy the issues and coming up with a plan of action.

He stated the items address the deficiency fire door replacement at the Courthouse. He stated specifically \$133,375.00 was being requested from reserves to pay for a contract with J. S. Archer

in Richmond to replace all the doors in the Courthouse in response to the fire marshal inspection of the Courthouse.

County Administrator Douglas stated that he would point out in a follow up inspection all of the doors replaced. He stated that it was recommended that some of the doors could be salvaged; however, he strongly recommends against trying to salvage the doors. It was stated that approximately 34 doors need to be replaced.

A copy of a budget amendment was included in the Board packet.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL, seconded by SUPERVISOR TYLER and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves Resolution #22-34 FY22 Budget Amendment; and

BE IT RESOLVED by the Sussex County Board of Supervisors that the following budget amendment for the Community Development and hereby is made for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This resolution will amend the budget to appropriate funds for the Public Works Department.

# FUND # 100 GENERAL FUND

## **REVENUE**

Fund 100

Local Reserves \$133,375.00

**Total Revenues**\$133,375.00

# **EXPENDITURE**

Fund 100 Building & Grounds\$133,375.00

Total Expenditures\$133,375.00

Voting aye: Supervisors Futrell, D. Jones, W. Jones, Seward, Tyler

Voting nay: none

Absent during Vote: Supervisor Fly

# 6.02 Dinwiddie/Sussex County Interim Director of Social Services Agreement

County Administrator Douglas stated that this item is the Dinwiddie/Sussex County Interim Director of Social Services Agreement.

He noted that the permanent position has been advertised. County Administrator Douglas stated that on the interim basis, several options have been reviewed. He stated that Dinwiddie staff has helped the County over the past several months; however, that agreement has come to an end. The Dinwiddie Director of Social Services, Ms. Natachia Randles, has been brought onboard to assist Sussex Department of Social Services. She works 40% of her time in Sussex. He stated that details will be worked out. He will be providing some administrative roles.

There was inquiry as to whether there was any staff to fill the position. County Administrator Douglas stated that there wasn't. There was mention of a transition plan.

He recognized Mr. Will Hagy, as he will be leaving the County to endeavor a new opportunity.

Supervisor Tyler stated for public record that he was embarrassed that the Commissioner of the State Department of Social Services is coming to the Sussex's Board May meeting (basically regarding the Social Services matters).

County Administrator Douglas stated that the State contacted the County especially since Mr. Hagy was leaving. County Administrator Douglas stated that he asked the Commissioner to attend on behalf of the Chair Seward.

County Administrator Douglas stated that Dinwiddie Department of Social Services stated that if there was any harassment from any of the members of the Board of Supervisors to or of the staff, they would end their contract.

There was discussion that the Board should have discussed this action instead of one person making that decision.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FLY, seconded SUPERVISOR TYLER and carried: RESOLVED the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the agreement for the Dinwiddie Sussex Interim Director of Social Services position.

Voting aye: Supervisors Fly, D. Jones, W. Jones, Seward, Tyler

Voting nay: Supervisor Futrell

## 7. Citizens' Comments

• <u>Angela McPhaul (Mayor/Waverly District)</u> – In March, Fire in trailer park on Lobb Shop Road; 2<sup>nd</sup> Fire; Town demolished dilapidated houses/trailer.

#### 8. Unfinished Business

# 8.01 Department of Social Services

This item was tabled.

#### 9. New Business

## 9.01 Proposed 2022-23 Operating Budget

County Administrator Douglas stated that the budget message that's being provided to them gives the highlights of the proposed budget.

He stated that he is pleased to present the recommended \$44.39 million operating budget for the fiscal year 2022-2023 for Sussex County, a \$6.5 million or 15 percent increase from FY21-22

(note that \$3.96 million of this figure derives from state and federal revenue sources; in addition, approximately \$900,000 in ARPA funds were included in the FY21-22 budget to cover costs related to solid waste collection and EMS, and these costs are now included in the proposed budget). This budget was prepared in accordance with state budgeting requirements and is based on the following:

- Reducing the real estate tax rate from 58 cents to 48 cents, in consideration of the significant increase in real estate values through the 2022 reassessment
- Maintaining the existing personal property rate of \$4.85 (which will result in higher tax revenue based on increased vehicle values)
- No fund balance appropriation
- Slight increases in building, planning, and animal services fees (to be considered separately)
- A budgeted increase of \$699,000 in landfill revenue from the current fiscal year
- Maintaining existing county funding for the school system (also increased state and federal revenue

At the start of the budget process, a "big ticket" budget work session was held by the Board of Supervisors, where each department head and Constitutional Officer was provided the opportunity to present capital requests, personnel requests, and requested programmatic changes that would result in new costs. Following these meetings, the County Administrator and Director of Finance met with each department head and Constitutional Officer to review each line of the requested budget and consider each department's needs. The budget worksheets have been changed to reflect the amount requested by the department head for each line item, so that the Board of Supervisors can see the requested amounts of funding. In addition, the Board of Supervisors met during formulation of the budget to review draft revenue projections, discuss real estate tax rate options based on the recent property reassessment, and consider fee increases for building, planning, and animal services.

Considering such factors as the financial impact on residents from the significant increase in property values, inflation and the escalating cost of goods and services, continued uncertainty of certain revenue sources such as court revenue, staff prepared this proposed budget with the goal of providing modest increases in budgeted expenditures to operational needs.

Expenditures within the recommended \$44.39 million operating budget are summarized as follows (with comparison to FY21-22 approved budget):

Legislative: \$158,051 (\$8,682 decrease)
Administrative: \$1,104,756 (\$346,401 increase)

Legal: \$150,000 (no change)

Financial: \$820,652 (\$84,423 increase)

Board of Election: \$247,531 (\$17,370 increase)

Judicial Administration: \$1,264,961 (\$53,223 increase)

Fire/Rescue/Emergency Ops: \$2,478,542 (\$865,722 increase)

Sheriff's Operations/Jail: \$5,458.145 (\$623,169 increase)

Public Works: \$1,621,936 (\$606,241 increase)

Heath/Human Services: \$3,553,073 (\$13,855 increase)

Public Education: \$24,903,811 (\$3,879,812 increase)

Libraries/Recreation/Culture: \$253,260 (\$3,109 increase)
Planning/Community Dev: \$544,109 (\$142,605 decrease)
Debt Services: \$1,581,016 (\$91, 170 increase)
Non-Departmental/Contingency: \$242,956 (\$114,956 increase)

Capital Improvements: \$0 (no change)

## Budget Highlights for 2022-2023:

• For all employees, a five percent salary increase, matching increases for state Compensation Board and DSS employees, is included in the proposed budget, which will help to address cost-of-living increases and assist in retaining employees.

- As previously approved, the Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) insurance program will
  save an estimated \$100,000 in the upcoming year, based on projected use, but maintains the
  same level of insurance coverage for our employees.
- In lieu of a pay and classification plan, provided for salary adjustments for the following positions, in an effort to retain existing employees and maintain competitiveness in attracting quality job candidates:
  - Administration-A/P Clerk (\$5,000); Public Works-all positions with exception of Public Works Director (\$5,000 each); Clerk of Court-three positions (\$4,000 total); Emergency Services-Public Safety Coordinator (\$5,000); Animal Services-Animal Services Director (\$15,000)
- One additional Courtroom Security Deputy position (\$46,495) and two additional Field Operations Deputy positions (\$46,495 each) to better meet growing public safety needs
- Additional Kennel Attendant position for Animal Services (\$40,000), to provide staffing for increased weekend public visitation hours and anticipated increase in animal adoptions, as well as to provide care for an increasing number of shelter animals
- Reorganization of solid waste management staffing (Public Works) to replace manager and inspector positions with two solid waste technicians (\$35,348 each), focused on roadside litter cleanup and illegal dumping removal, and contracted landfill inspections through CHA (\$5,000)
- Building Services is now budgeted to reflect contractual agreement with Surry County and one administrative staff position
- Social Services is now budgeted to reflect a reduced number of positions, as well as the contractual agreement with the City of Franklin for a shared CSA Coordinator position
- \$55,000 in computer hardware upgrades to replace outdated equipment
- \$150,000 worth of smaller capital requests are included in the proposed budget, related to continued building improvements at Social Services, Courthouse, Animal Services, and Registrar, as well as a gasoline pump upgrade and maintenance trailer for road sign replacement and repair (\$135,000 in ARPA funds will be\_requested for a Public Works maintenance building that is needed prior to any Courthouse improvement project).

Each department head and Constitutional Officer should be commended for refining expenditure estimates and working to achieve only modest increases as necessary in their budget requests. I also wish to thank Treasurer Deste Cox for preparing our revenue projections, Director of Finance Kelly Moore for many hours of preparing the budget document and coordinating the budget

development process, and Payroll Clerk Louise Brucato for preparing adjusted personnel salary and benefit figures.

The Board of Supervisors may wish to consider a couple dates for budget work sessions if necessary, prior to the advertised public hearing on May 19<sup>th</sup>. (May 5<sup>th</sup> is already scheduled to review external agency and community organization funding requests). Budget adoption is tentatively scheduled for June 2nd, with the proposed adoption method changing from ordinance to resolution as recommended by the County Attorney. I welcome further discussion on this proposed budget as we move toward the upcoming fiscal year.

There were in depth discussions regarding remedies for the disposal of items at the convenience sites.

He stated that Ms. Cox provided a separate document of Personal Property Change for 2022 Snapshot.

# 9.02 Proposed Jackson's Walking Trail and Dog Play Area

County Administrator Douglas stated this is intended to be a pilot program for a walking trail for people and dogs and other two-legged animals play area. He stated that he named the walking trail after his dog that was hit over a couple months ago who walked the trail with him. The trail is based off a trail in Waynesboro. It's located adjacent to the Animal Shelter. It's a little over a mile long path. The Animal Shelter staff has been using the trail to walk dogs. They discussed having a "Walk-A-Dog Initiative" wherein people who doesn't have a dog and wants to volunteer can sign a dog out and take the dog out for a walk. There was discussion of talking with schools as using it as or for a cross-country running trail.

He stated that the trail would be maintained by Building and Grounds. Only mowing will be needed for approximately an hour a week. He stated that a temporary signed will be placed at this time. There were discussion of a parking area.

County Administrator Douglas stated that he wanted the Board's approval before moving forward.

County Administrator shared a video of a walk-through of the trail.

#### 10. Board Member Comments

10.01 Blackwater District – none

10.02 Courthouse District – none

10.03 Henry District – none

10.04 Stony Creek District – none

<u>10.05 Wakefield District</u> – none.

#### 10.06 Waverly District – none.

#### 11. Closed Session

#### 11.01 Convene to Closed Session

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FLY, seconded by SUPERVISOR TYLER and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby enters Closed Session to discuss personnel matters involving performance evaluation of specific Board appointed employee, pursuant to Va. Code Section 2.2-3711(A)1, County Administrator. All Board members present voted aye.

# 11.02/03. Reconvene to Open Session/Certification of Closed Session

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR W. JONES, seconded by SUPERVISOR TYLER and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby reconvened to Open Session and convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves adoption of resolution for certification, to-wit:

WHEREAS, that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, requires a certification by the Board that such Closed Meeting was conducted inconformity with Virginia law.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from Open Meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the Closed Meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the Closed Meeting were heard discussed or considered.

Voting aye: Supervisors Fly, Futrell, D. Jones, W. Jones, Seward, Tyler

Voting nay: none

# 11.04 Action Resulting from Closed Session

There was no action on the Closed Session item. The item will be addressed at the next Personnel Committee meeting.

#### 12. Adjournment

#### 12.01 Adjournment

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR W. JONES, seconded by SUPERVISOR TYLER and carried: RESOLVED that the April 21, 2022 regular meeting of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby adjourned at 11:25 p.m. All Board members present voted aye.

# 12.02 Next Meeting

The next regular Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, July 21, 2022 at 6 p.m.